

Civil Air Patrol/Cape May



CAPE MAY COUNTY SQUADRON CIVIL AIR PATROL

SQUADRON

From the Commander

I hope everyone had a wonderful Holiday Season. Once again, a New Year is here and a chance for a new beginning.

Since it is the start of a new year, now is the time to look at what you accomplished during the past year and improve upon what you have done, whether it was being promoted, advancing in your specialty, or just putting yourself out there to see what you could do. Now is the time to take inventory of yourself, and how far you have gone to educate and advance yourself.

I would like for you to take a moment and take a hard look at yourself and answer these questions: did I accomplish what I started out to do last year? Am I ready for more responsibility this year? How can I do more to help myself and how can I get it done?

I really want to see everyone, from cadets to senior officers try to make more of an effort to see how far you can push yourself this year and see if you can set a personal goal of promotion, advancement in your skill level in Professional Development, or try

to make yourself better by participating and not letting others carry the load. This is my challenge to you for this year.

I am looking forward to presenting another Friends and Family Night with plenty of awards for all coming up in February 2009, this kind of event really is enjoyable for me to be able to present special awards to deserving members of our squadron who work hard all year round to help our squadron grow and prosper.

As we have changed our Cadet Command Structure around for this year, new commanders, first sergeants and cadet staff members, you will notice a slight change in how things are done pertaining to the Cadet Side of things; this comes with new personnel and new ideas, so give them a chance. Our leadership from the past year did an Outstanding Job! I was very pleased with the entire Cadet Leadership. Change is a good thing, it is not a measure of punishment or reprimand for any past failures, but a chance to step back and reflect on
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how you did as an effective leader and give the person you have been mentoring all along, the chance to use the skills they learned in a practical manner and learn how to lead and manage people to become an effective leader.

One of my Main Goals for this year is in the area of Cadet Recruitment, we seem to have started to dwindle in our cadet numbers as of late, and I want to start a new trend of attracting new cadet members into the squadron. I will be meeting with the Cadet and Senior Staff in the coming month to discuss ideas on Recruitment and how to obtain more Cadet Members. Remember, without the Cadets, our program would not be as successful as it already is.

By Mid-February, we should have in place a trained K-9 Team within the squadron, thanks to SM Diana Akeret for the training. This Team could be called out to assist in Missing Person's Searches, Missing Children Searches and other Emergency Services Missions. This is another aspect of professionalism our squadron has at its disposal to use for the common good of all we serve.

Another area I am looking forward to working on is Parental Involvement with our squadron, it seems like too many parents are unaware that they too can help out, as much or little as they want to by becoming Cadet Sponsors or Patron Members. This membership enables them to have a sense of belonging without directly getting involved with the everyday activities of the squadron. They can work with our Staff to plan

events, fund-raising and to indirectly assist their cadet move more effectively in Civil Air Patrol without interfering with their overall responsibilities to the squadron and themselves. If you would like the opportunity to help us help your cadet, feel free to speak with either LtCol Richard Simon or myself on becoming a Patron or Sponsor Member, this is your way of being behind the scenes and helping your child without being directly with them. Support your child's well being by becoming a member of the Best Squadron in New Jersey!

I want to express my sincere Thank You to all the parents who helped out last year, without your help, a lot of things would have been more challenging for our Staff. Whether it was picking your cadet up on time, after missions, and our outside squadron activities, or taking pictures or bringing in snacks for the cadets, every little bit helped out, and I wanted to say Thank You.

“SEMPER OPTIMUS “

Kevin L. Barstow, Capt/CAP



To All Cadet Personnel:

Uniforms issued by USAF are accountable. When personnel leave, squadron uniforms will be turned in. This is a Must! If you have any questions, see Supply.

Maj Wayne Ingling
2nd Lt Lisa Barstow

Upcoming Events:

7 Jan - NCSA Applications due to NJ Wing
10 Jan –Cadet Review Board @ NJ Wing
25 Jan - K-9 Training @ Belleplain State Forest
7 Feb - tentative date for Family and Friends

Promotions

C/TSgt Craig
Coughlin to
C/MSgt



C/1st Lt Tristan
Kooker to
C/Capt

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

2nd Lt Lance Williams
Capt James Troy
C/A1C Louis Sicilia
Capt Mindy McNicholas



Senior Member Promotions

Major Richard Simon to Lt Col
Congratulations!

Public Affairs

Just a quick note from me this time- thank you to everyone who helped with the Christmas party we had last month! It was very nice and I appreciate all your help. We have a tentative date for our annual Family and Friends night– February 7th. Please try to attend. It's a night we recognize the accomplishments of cadets and seniors over the past year, and just have a good time with friends and family and get to know each other a little better. Happy New Year to everyone!

1st Lt Sandra Kooker, PAO
ejsltb@comcast.net

Anniversaries

Capt John Allegri
Chaplain Miles Barrett
1st Lt Sandra Kooker
Capt Mindy McNicholas
Maj John Sammons

Cadet Program

Cadets,

Things were hectic in December, but we did end the year on a good note. We have our first Cadet Captain since SM McEwing, he earned the Earhart Award around 2002/2003. Second, we had a cadet promote to C/MSgt in a little over a year. We came in fourth place in the West Cape May Christmas Parade and we had a really good turnout for Wreathes Across America. Let us make 2009 better by raising the bar for all sides of the coin. This will take 5 percent more work to reap the benefits of all the cadet program has to offer. In May, we will do the President's Challenge Fitness Test. If we start working towards that now, nothing will stop us from achieving that in May. Thank you all for a great 2008 and lets work together for a greater 2009.

Capt Tony Simon
Deputy Commander for Cadets
NER NJ-009

A Note From the Cadet Staff

Now that the holidays are over, and a new year has started, it is a good time to become more active in the cadet program. While I realize that many of you are busy with school and other activities, you should still be able to find time to progress in the cadet program. Even though I am a senior in high school, I was able to earn my Earhart Award last month, in addition to taking on the responsibilities of becoming the new cadet commander. You do not have to study for hours each night, just use some of your spare time to study for your next promotion, work on improving your PT scores, or write a newsletter article. If you are having trouble completing these requirements, or do not understand them, your cadet staff will be happy to help you.

In addition to working on your next promotion, those of you who are interested in emergency services should also work on completing the NIMS courses. Since these had to be completed by the end of 2008, many of you who were previously qualified are not any more. The IS-100, 200, and 700 courses only take about 1 or 2 hours to complete, so you can get them done in one night. While I realize that these courses are not very interesting, they are the price you must pay to participate in real missions.

C/Capt Tristan Kooker
Cadet Commander, NER NJ-009

Senior Member In the Spotlight

Lieutenant Colonel Richard A Simon was born and raised in Trenton, NJ. In 1974, he became a municipal police officer employed by Wildwood Crest Police Department. He retired in 1999 after 25 years of service.

Lt Col Simon attended the University of Dayton majoring in Mechanical Engineering. He left college after one year and worked at several jobs. After some time, he continued his education attending college part-time. In 1982, he earned an Associate in Science in Law Enforcement from Cumberland County College.

Through further classes and independent study, he completed a Bachelor of Science in Human Services, Criminal Justice Specialty from Thomas Edison State College.



Lt Col Simon joined the Cape May County Composite Squadron, CAP in September 1999. Currently he serves as Personnel Officer, Professional Development Officer, Administrative Officer, Asst. Cadet Activities Officer and Asst. Information Technologies Officer. In the past, he also served as Deputy Commander for Seniors, Safety Officer, Communications Officer, Asst. Testing Officer, and Asst. Aerospace Education Officer.

From 2002 to 2008, Lt Col Simon served on New Jersey Wing staff as Test Control Officer, Personnel Officer and Asst. Professional Development Officer. In addition, he served for three years as Administrative Officer for the Northeast Region Staff College.

Lt Col Simon is married to SM Nancy Simon. They have two children, Amy and Tony (AKA Capt Richard A Simon II, CAP).



Support Search & Rescue

GET LOST !

HAPPY NEW YEAR! I hope everyone had a safe and happy holiday season with their family and loved ones.

I have some bad news, the Squadrons Emergency Services roster has diminished by a large percentage due too the requirements set forth by National Headquarters. The requirements that have changed include certifications by taking online courses and tests for NIMS! What is NIMS you ask?

The National Incident Management System (NIMS) provides a systematic, proactive approach to guide departments and agencies at all levels of government, nongovernmental organizations, and the private sector to work seamlessly to prevent, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the effects of incidents, regardless of cause, size, location, or complexity, in order to reduce the loss of life and property and harm to the environment.

There you have it in a nutshell, what does this mean to you and me? If you are not up to date on you certifications then you cannot participate during missions! Are the courses hard to complete? Yes, but they are not impossible. They do take a little bit of work and time to complete but they can be done. If you have any questions about which course's you need to complete, just check the chart in the senior member area of the squadron, different levels are required for different jobs and there are too many to list here.

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This is a very important requirement for anyone participating in Emergency Services, so it is important to complete these requirements as soon as possible.

Just a quick note before I finish, January 25, 2009 we will be conducting K-9 training, this will be a great opportunity so I hope to see you there!

2nd Lt Evan Kooker
Emergency Services Officer
NER NJ-009

Character Development

Greetings CAP, it's great to return to you! Involvement in CAP in high school lead me to general aviation. Assignment as a Navy Chaplain to the US Coast Guard TRACEN in Cape May NJ lets me return as a now more senior volunteer. OK! Old. Now I invite other adults to join the great opportunity to shape our future today. Come any Thursday 7 p.m. to the Cape May Airport tower and let get acquainted. If you come the last Thursday of the month you are welcomed to join in the Moral Leadership discussion with our young cadets; come meet some of the brightest and finest of our future leaders.

Pax Christi, carpe diem!

Fr. Miles J Barrett
CDR CHC USN

From the Cadets

Happy New Year to all my fellow CAP Cadets and Senior members. I hope that this year will be a great year for our squadron. Its application time again for National Cadet Activities. The year has gone by so quickly. It seems like it was just yesterday that I filled out my application for Honor Guard Academy 2008. I am looking forward to HGA 2009. I would encourage all of our cadets to attend a National or State activity. You work hard but have a great time learning and working with your fellow cadets.

On December 13, 2008 The squadron participated in Wreaths Across America. This ceremony, held across the United States at 1200 hours, honored service men and women who have served in the armed forces, some of whom gave the ultimate sacrifice in defending our freedoms. With the help of other cadets, and scouts from Troops 84 and 73, wreaths were laid on the military grave markers in the Cold Spring Cemetery. It was an honor taking part in this ceremony.

I am currently studying for the rank of Master Sergeant and plan on getting it soon. So far CAP has been a

blast and gets better and better as the weeks go by.

Semper Vigilans!

C/TSgt
Dylan
Rutherford



(Thank you to Mr. Rutherford for the wonderful photos of Wreaths Across America!)

